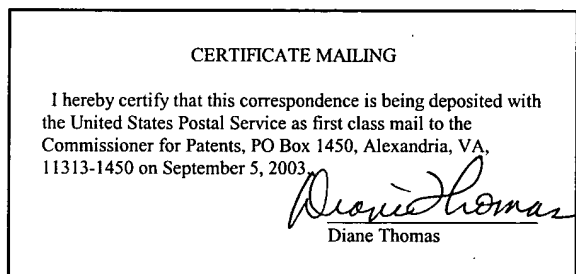




UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
PATENT EXAMINING OPERATIONS

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TC 1700

Applicant: Seiji Yamashita                      Group Art Unit: 1741  
Serial No.: 09/507,212                      Examiner: Tran, T  
Filed: February 18, 2000                      Docket No.: P 00 572.006  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING CONTAMINATION IN A  
PLASTIC CONTAINER



Birdwell, Janke & Durando, PLC  
1100 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 1400  
Portland, OR 97204

September 5, 2003

AMENDMENT

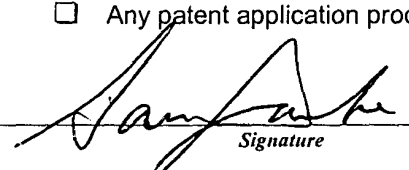

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Greetings:

This Amendment has been re-formatted in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed August 8, 2003, setting a one-month period for response. The Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed July 9, 2003. Please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows:

In the Claims

Cancel, without prejudice, claims 2, 5 - 9, 15 - 20, and 23 and 25, amend claims 1, 10 and 21, and new claims 26 and 27 as follows:

<b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Small Entity)</b>			Docket No. <b>P 00 572.006</b>		
Applicant(s): <b>Seiji Yamashita</b>					
Serial No. <b>09/507,212</b>	Filing Date <b>February 18, 2000</b>	Examiner <b>Tran, T</b>	Group Art Unit <b>1741</b>		
Invention: <b>METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING CONTAMINATION IN A PLASTIC CONTAINER</b> <div style="float: right; text-align: right;"> <b>RECEIVED</b>  <b>SEP 09 2003</b>  <b>TC 1700</b> </div>					
<b>TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</b>					
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity status of this application has been established under 37 CFR 1.27 by a verified statement previously submitted. <input type="checkbox"/> A verified statement to establish Small Entity status under 37 FR 1.27 is enclosed.					
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>					
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	11 -	25 =	0 x	\$9.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	2 -	4 =	0 x	\$42.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <b>02-2451</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. <input type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.					
 Signature			Dated: <b>September 5, 2003</b>		
<b>Garth Janke, Reg. No. 40,662</b> <b>BIRDWELL, JANKE &amp; DURANDO, PLC</b> <b>1100 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 1400</b> <b>Portland, Oregon 97204</b>			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">         I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on 9-5-03 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450.            Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence    <b>Diane Thomas</b>          Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence       </div>		
CC:					

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL (37 CFR 1.8)**

Applicant(s): Seiji Yamashita

Docket No.

P 00 572.006

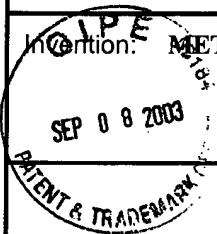
Serial No.  
09/507,212

Filing Date  
February 18, 2000

Examiner  
Tran, T

Group Art Unit  
1741

Invention: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING CONTAMINATION IN A PLASTIC CONTAINER**



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I hereby certify that this Amendment and return postcard

(Identify type of correspondence)

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 5, 2003

(Date)

Diane Thomas

(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)

Diane Thomas

(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)

**Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.**